

numbers of the metamorphosed young occur on the banks of the many inlets of the Periyar Lake in the summer months" where they are eaten by wild boar. The tightly packed battalions of these frogs would seem to place them at a disadvantage to predation.

We thank Mr. J.C. Daniel for identifying this distinctive species, based on our description.

November 29, 1995

CHRIS WEMMER

*Zoo Conservation & Research Centre,
1500 Remount Road, Front Royal,
Virginia 22630, U.S.A*

K.A. NANJAPPA

*Bombay Natural History Society,
Hornbill House, Dr. Sálim Ali Chowk,
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Road, Mumbai-400 023.*

24. ADDITIONS TO THE UPDATED SPECIES LIST OF AMPHIBIAN FAUNA OF INDIA

In 1986 Inger and Dutta reviewed a faunal list of amphibia of India which included 181 species. Chanda and Ghosh (1988), and Das (1990) pointed out the omission of 25 species in that list. Recently, Dutta (1992) presented an updated species list of amphibia, comprising 197 species, with the explanations to the species omitted by Inger and Dutta (1986).

However, two valid species *Ansonia kamblei* Ravichandran and Pillai 1990, collected from Maharashtra and *Micrixalus gadgili* Pillai and

Pattabiraman 1990, collected from Kerala were not incorporated in the new updated species list and no explanation was given in the list for the omission of these two species. Therefore, the total number of amphibian species of India is 199 with the addition of these two valid species.

December 20, 1995

ALOYSIUS G. SEKAR

*Bombay Natural History Society,
Hornbill House, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Road,
Dr. Sálim Ali Chowk, Mumbai-400 023.*

REFERENCES

- CHANDA, S.K. & A.K. GHOSH (1988): Addenda to the amphibian fauna of India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 85: 626-627.
DAS, I. (1990): Amphibians from India some further species. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 87: 310-312.
DUTTA, S.K. (1992): Amphibians of India; Updated species list with distribution record. *Hamadryad* 17: 1-13.
INGER, R.F. & S.K. DUTTA (1986): An overview of the amphibian fauna of India. *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 83 (Suppl.): 135-

146.
PILLAI, R.S. & R. PATTABIRAMAN (1990): Amphibians from Sabarigiri forest, Western Ghats, Kerala, including a new species of *Micrixalus*. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India* 86(2): 383-390.
RAVICHANDRAN, M.S. & R.S. PILLAI (1990): Amphibia of Maharashtra with description of a new species of Torrent toad, *Ansonia*. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India.* 86(3&4): 505-513.

25. EXTENSION OF RANGE OF DISTRIBUTION OF *HORADANDIA ATUKORALI* DERANIYAGALA (PISCES: CYPRINIDAE: RASBORINAE) TO PONDICHERRY AND TAMIL NADU

Horadandia atukorali Deraniyagala, 1943, was described from the weedy freshwater ponds of the coastal plains of Sri Lanka. It is characterized by the absence of barbels and lateral line and was thought to be endemic to Sri Lanka until 1992, when

it was found in the west coastal plains of Kerala, India. Based on differences in body shape, the lateral line scale number and the number of branched dorsal fin rays, the west coast Indian form was described as a new subspecies *H. atukorali brittani* Rema Devi

and Menon, 1992. Later it was considered a synonym of *H. atukorali* (Menon 1993). The present record of the species from the freshwater bodies of Kalpakkam and Pondicherry, by scientists of the Southern Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India extends the range of distribution of the species to the eastern coastal plains of India. The report is based on 7 specimens 11-17 mm SL collected during 1992 and 1995 and deposited in the reserve collections of the station.

***Horadandia atukorali* Deraniyagala**

Horadandia atukorali Deraniyagala, 1943, *J. Royal Asiatic Soc.*, Vol. xxxv, 96: 158, 159, fig. 1 (Type locality: Attidiya, Colombo, etc., Ceylon); Munro, 1955, *Marine and Fresh water Fishes of Ceylon*: 41, pl. 17, fig. 107.

Horadandia atukorali brittani Rema Devi and Menon, 1992, *Tropical Fish Hobbyist*, Vol. XL (10): 175-176, figs. 1 & 2, table 1 (Type locality: Pond in Pathiramanal Island, Shertallay, Kerala, India).

Distribution: Sri Lanka. INDIA: Coastal wet zones of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry.

Remarks: From India, *Horadandia atukorali* has so far been reported from the western coastal wet plains, in ponds, ditches and in the Vembanad Lake of Kottayam and Allepey Districts of Kerala (Rema Devi and Menon 1992, Rema Devi *et al.* in press). The present report extends its range of

distribution to the eastern coastal wet zones. It was found among weeds, along the littoral regions of the Sankaraparni river, flowing through Villianur in Pondicherry and a freshwater pond in Kalpakkam, Madras. Parental care is lacking in this species (Brittan 1961); and the eggs attached to submerged vegetation and the fry tend to become an easy prey to carnivorous species occurring in the same habitat. Regarding its habitat and utility value, Pethyagoda (1991) writes that it is essentially a still (or slow-moving) water fish, frequenting less saline mangrove swamps and less polluted canals, rice fields and similar still waters. He remarks that it is a useful mosquito larvivore and that its habitat in Muthurajawela swamp (Sri Lanka) is heavily fished for small shrimps (kuni) which are sun-dried and sold and that *Horadandia* forms a noticeable proportion of the kuni. Grows to a length of 25 mm SL.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India and to the Officer-in-Charge, Southern Regional Station, ZSI, for providing necessary facilities and to Dr. A.G.K. Menon, Emeritus Scientist, for going through the manuscript.

February 6, 1996

K. REMA DEVI

*Zoological Survey of India,
Southern Regional Station, Madras.*

REFERENCES

- BRITTAN, M.R. (1961): Another Midget. *Tropical Fish Hobbyist* 9 (7): 33-34.
 MENON, A.G.K. (1993): Check List-Freshwater Fishes of India, 457 pp., ZSI, Madras. Submitted to Dept. of Environment, Govt. of India.
 PETHYAGODA, R. (1991): Freshwater fishes of Sri Lanka. Wildlife Heritage Trust, Colombo, xiv + 362 pp.
 REMA DEVI, K. & A.G.K. MENON (1992): *Horadandia atukorali*

- brittani*, a new subspecies of Rasborinae (Pisces: Cyprinidae) from Kerala, South India. *Tropical Fish Hobbyist* 40 (10): 175-176.
 REMA DEVI, K., T.J. INDRA & K.G. EMILIYAMMA (in Press): On the fish collections from Kerala, deposited in Southern Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India by NRM, Stockholm, 19 pp. *Rec. Zool. Surv. India*.

26. FRESH WATER FISHES OF PAMBAR RIVER, CHINNAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, KERALA

INTRODUCTION

Freshwater fishes of Kerala, especially Travancore region had gained attention of various workers in the past (Day 1878, Pillay 1929, John

1936, Hora and Law 1941, Hora and Nair 1941, Raj 1941 a & b, Silas 1949, 1951 a & b). However, there has been no authentic record of the fish fauna of the region for the last forty years.

The Pambar river and its tributary Chinnar, one